

G. R. S. 58]

Previous references.

55-12. 151-158

Later references.

✓
1913-14.
(*g.m.*)

File No.

67-13

Serial Nos.

52+66

Present
(R)

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos.

52+66.

Part B for

July, 1915

SUBJECT.

*Statistical Information regarding the
External Trade of the Mysore State.*

in statement
16

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

(Gen Mins)

NOTES.

G.M. File No. 67/4/13

FILE HEADING.

Industries and Commerce

From

The Director of I & C

No. 390

Dated 29.8.13

Received 3/5.9.13 (B.T.)

Diary No. 1602

Enclos. 1

Spare Copies.

Serial No. 2

BRIEF ABSTRACT OF LETTER.

Forwards a copy his letter No 389 dated 29th Aug 13 addressed to the Revenue Commissioner in Mysore regarding the collection statistics, as it embodies his (Director's) views on the extent to which work in this direction can be usefully done without putting the State to an ~~undue~~ unjustifiable expenditure.

NOTES AND ORDERS.

Subd with references.

SN
6.9.13

Secretary

1/2
6.9.13

There is, no doubt, much force in the observations made by Mr Chatterton, but ~~one~~

Serial
No.

it is not quite correct to assume that the transfrontier road traffic is negligible or that it balances ~~itself~~ itself. In his remarks about road traffic Mr Chatterton does not seem to attach sufficient importance to the trade in cattle. Judging by the great success of cattle fairs & Shows & the large numbers of cattle that are brought there for sale there is every reason to presume that a brisk trade in cattle takes place at these fairs, & there is reason to believe that a large number of cattle are exported to Madras & Bombay & Pondicherry. The greater part of this traffic goes by road. Some deeper investigation into this trade in cattle would yield interesting results.

In regard to internal trade it may be useful if Jt Committee & local bodies ^{consider} ~~analyse~~ the figures furnished in the Railway returns in the light of local knowledge & see what facilities could be given to increase trade &c.

Serial
No.

No very elaborate collection of statistics seems necessary. In enquiring into particular trades & industries some detailed ~~local~~ information about local production & trade may be required, but this can best be obtained by specific investigation.

As observed by Mr Chatterton, the Season & Crop Reports now published by the Rev Dept. contain a lot of useful & fairly accurate information. But on some points they may be improved. It is difficult to say how far the figures of standard output can be relied upon. These will have to be checked & verified from time to time. Details ~~are~~ ^{are} ~~now~~ ^{now} given of only a few crops. Information may be given about some more crops of importance - eg. mulberry in Bangalore, Kolar, Tumkur & Mysore DG, Areca & Cardamom in Hassan Kader & Shimoga, Coconuts in Bangalore & Tumkur, & so on.

We may ~~also~~ ^{also} await the views of the Rev Commr. in Mr Chatterton's letter before taking further action.

Varieties of cotton
in Chitalmug

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

5263
13.9.13Ull
12/9

GPB-65,000-17-5-12.

Sub' to Dewan

through 2nd

C8B

8/9/13

Serial
No.

66

1845

Letter N^o 4215 dated 10th Sept 1913
from the Rev Com^r at Bangalore
adverting to para 4 of Govt
Order N^o 6962-73 / L.A. 2-5-12-3
dated 22nd May 1913 for which a
copy of letter N^o 329 dated 2nd Aug
1913 from the Director of Industries
Bom-m-bay regarding the all India
of trade statistics.

A Copy of the Director's letter
enclosed was received a few days
back & the file subd to Dewan on

13/9/13.

SN per Secretary
15-9-13

hm
15-9-13.

This matter is sub^d to Dewan in
continuation

{ 5263 }
13-9-13

5296
16-9-13

em
15/9/13
T₂

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No.

Mr. Chatterton's note merely leaves things where they are. He makes no definite suggestions regarding the manner in which the collection of statistics within the State may be improved. To say that exports and imports along a road will cancel one another and that there is not much use in registering trans-frontier trade is to assume that it is unimportant to find out which articles are exported or imported.

Without a correct knowledge or census of production, including manufactures and exports and imports, we shall be dealing with generalities and there will be no basis for working out any comprehensive schemes of agricultural and industrial development.

Mr. Chatterton may be requested to study the systems practised in European countries or in the colonies and suggest methods of improving existing statistics and arranging for collection of fresh statistics.

Although the subject was mooted a very long time ago, nothing worth mentioning beyond collecting statistics of rail-borne trade has been done so far. The file may be unofficially forwarded to Mr. Chatterton with the above remarks for favour of submitting definite proposals for the collection of the statistics required. If he finds it difficult

Serial
No.

or impossible to undertake the work, he may record
his views to that effect.

24.11.13 lb

U. O. no 46 of 13

of 2nd Dec 1913.

Forwarded with Compliments to
the Director of Industries for favouring
remarks.

1 Dec 1913. CS Balasundaram

I have already furnished my
views on the subject in reply
to a D.O. letter from the Dewan.
It would be very easy to ascertain
if there is any large export trade
in cattle by road as the sales and
transfers are usually effected at
fairs. Generally, I agree with the
Secretary's note. To do more than
is there suggested is I find difficult
if not impossible.

Agree Chatterton
2.12.13

Sub^d to the Dewan.

6389

4.12.13.

CSB

3/12/13

The D.O. letter referred to is with the sample.
The file is returned for favour of further
suggestions, as personally directed by Dewan.

21/12/13

Serial
No.

The subject of road statistics has been dealt with in the file re the report of the H. Committee in re revision of Statistical forms. These papers may be placed in that file -

CBS
7/7/13

SA

24 Aug

✓ 8

Copy of letter No. 935 dated 2nd December 1913 from the
Director of Industries and Commerce to the Dewan.

I have carefully considered the questions you have asked in your D.O. No. 1048 of the 29 ultimo, regarding the preparation of statistics relating to industrial and commercial matters. Unless these statistics are accurate, they are worse than useless, as they are misleading. As to the probability of obtaining accurate statistics regarding the internal trade of the State, I would draw attention to the remarks of the Census officer regarding the value of vital statistics. In paragraph 41, he states " The least number of births should have been 152,709 whereas the actual number recorded was 94,467 "; that is to say, the administrative machinery of the province is only capable of obtaining a record of about 60% of the number of births that occurred and since this is the case, I think it is highly improbable that any statistical information can be collected which will throw additional light on the industrial and commercial problems of this State. In more advanced countries statistical information is almost entirely derived from compulsory returns, to obtain which in Mysore special legislation will be necessary. But even if the necessary legal powers were obtained, any inquiries into the business turn-over of individuals will be regarded with extreme disfavour, and, either no returns will be submitted, or, the returns will be obviously false. I am therefore of opinion that it is not possible, within three months time to collect statistics of industries and manufactures, and of important business concerns, district by district.

Table 15 of the Mysore Census of 1911 furnishes some information, and I doubt if it is practicable to obtain more.

Of modern forms of industrial enterprise, there are few examples outside Bangalore and the Kolar Gold Fields. Practically, the whole of the industries and commerce of the State are in the hands of merchants and artisans who work on indigenous lines, and they will entirely decline- and in fact will be unable - to furnish us with any accurate information as to their out-turn.

As regards estimates of production, we must rely almost entirely upon the figures furnished in respect to the external trade of the State, as, inside the State itself, excluding gold and manganese, the produce is entirely of agricultural origin.

You ask me if there will be any difficulty in formulating a scheme for improving the present system of collecting statistics and estimating production and value of manufactures and exports and imports. In reply to this, I would point out that I have already taken steps to obtain accurate figures regarding the rail-borne trade of the State, which covers the bulk of the imports and exports. It would be of advantage if we could obtain similar accurate returns regarding the trans-frontier trade of the State along the roads, but the cost of accurately registering such traffic will be considerable. From inquiries which I have made, I believe that the road traffic is only important at a few places such as Harihar, where there is a bridge over the Tungabhadra, and by which considerable quantities of raw cotton are brought into the Mysore State to be ginned and baled at Davangere; at Sivanasamudram, where there is a bridge over the Cauvery by which the silk produced in Kollegal is carried to the Madur railway station; and, along certain ghats connecting the Mulnad with the west coast. The traffic along these ghats is entirely connected with the planting interests: coffee goes down to the coast, and planters' requisites come up. In regard to the amount of coffee exported, the sea-borne trade statistics of the ports of Mangalore,

3.

Cannanore, and Tellichery will furnish very accurate information ; only that they include the exports of the planters in Coorg. To separate the Coorg exports from those of Mysore will be difficult, as the ratios of the areas under cultivation in Mysore and Coorg probably differs very considerably from the ratio of coffee crops produced.

Thirteen of fourteen years ago, Dewan Bahadur K.P. Puttanna Chetty made certain elaborate inquiries as to the amount of traffic likely to be obtained by railways constructed to reach the West Coast at Mangalore and Tellicherry; and the figures he then obtained may be accepted at the present time, as there has been practically no change in the areas under cultivation in the planting districts. I do not think I am in a position to express any opinion as to whether it will be worth while to establish frontier posts for the collection of statistics regarding road traffic. The Government of Madras maintained such posts for a number of years, and I recently addressed the Collectors of all the frontier districts of the Madras Presidency regarding these returns, and it appears that they have all been abolished, as it was considered that the information they furnished did not justify the cost of maintaining them. It is, I think, not difficult to show that, except at the points I have already mentioned, the trans-frontier trade can be of nothing more than local importance, and consists simply of the traffic in grains and produce, which goes on all over India between neighbouring villages. There are no railways near the frontier of the State, except at the point where the line from Madras enters the State, ~~except at the point where the line from Madras enters the State,~~ and at Harihar where the Poona line leaves the State. The silk traffic at Sivasamudram is altogether exceptional, and is entirely due to the fact that the Kollegal Taluk is cut off from the Madras Presidency by the hills of North Coimbatore.

I should now like to point out that the statistical information

we are collecting and have already published furnished a very considerable amount of information regarding trade and commerce in the Mysore State. This is contained in Bulletins Nos. 4 & 14 of the Industries and Commerce Committee. No.4 deals with the external trade of the Mysore State during the decennial period 1901-11, and I would draw attention to table VII, which supplies a considerable amount of information regarding the handloom industry. Similarly, table XII, dealing with the exports and imports of brass and copper, furnishes a good deal of information in respect to the State of the artisans engaged in these industries. In regard to table XIX, which deals with raw silk, considerable doubt has been expressed both ^{by} myself and others ~~as~~ to the accuracy of the figures furnished by the Railway Companies, owing to the fact that there ^{are} possibly concealed exports of silk. If information is required regarding the general prosperity of the people, accurate returns are ^a available in table XXV, which relates to the business done by the Post Office; table XXX regarding railway receipts; and table XXXI, which contains information regarding the deposits in the Government Savings bank. In future, the returns of the Bank of Mysore will afford additional information regarding Commercial and Industrial matters. I have myself criticised the accuracy of the various sources of information from which Bulletin No.4 has been compiled, and Government have recently sanctioned an establishment costing Rs.175/ a month to enable the Madras and Southern Maharatta Railway Company to furnish us with a more detailed classification and a more accurate return of the trans-frontier railway traffic. The figures for the period from the 1st of April to the 1st of July have already been sent to the Government Press to be published ⁱⁿ the "Mysore Gazette". They only deal with a period of three months, and it is impossible to make any comparison between them ^{and} the figures which I have extracted from the Rail-borne traffic statistics published by the ^U Governments of Madras and Bombay. All I can say is that the trans-frontier traffic during the three months in question is enormously greater than one would have expected from the returns which have hitherto been available. In bulletin No.14, on page 4, I have

drawn attention to the probable inaccuracy of the estimates of the out-
turn of the crops in each year, and I would suggest for your consider-
ation the possibility of ^{framing} ~~training~~ more accurate estimates of the total
outturn of crops in each year; possibly, the Settlement Department,
with the information at its disposal regarding the fertility of dif-
ferent classes of soils, could prepare a moderately accurate estimate
of what might be considered a normal crop in a fairly good season;
and once this estimate was prepared, it would be possible to obtain
for each year a rough estimate of the total amount of Agricultural
produce grown in the State. The figures, however, will, in my opinion,
be of little more than academic interest, as there is no doubt that,
when seasons are bad, the people put up with a restricted diet, and
the inequalities of the seasons are but faintly reflected in the re-
turns regarding the exports from, and imports into, the State. That
is to say, if in a good year the people have plenty to eat, in a bad
year they suffer a certain amount of privation, and in both years
there are considerable movements of grain across the frontier. So far,
from the figures I have examined, ^{it} ~~that~~ is not possible to trace ~~the~~ to
what cause the variations in these movements are due.

The question you have really raised is whether it would be possi-
ble to obtain a statistical information of any value by deputing spe-
cial officers to go round the country and collecting the statistical
information required from individuals. In regard to this, I have not
the least hesitation in saying that such inquiries will be almost
valueless. I have had brought before me examples of work of this kind,
and I have found that the statements taken down in one village in no
way harmonise with those in the neighbouring village. The work has
been rendered all the more difficult lately owing to the fact that the
people now assume that any inquiries made by Government Officers re-
garding the amount of business they are doing has some reference to
the proposal to establish an incometax. It is possible that most of
the merchants can furnish accurate accounts of their business transac-
tions, but they will certainly decline to do so unless compelled by
law. Outside the merchant class the people are not sufficiently edu-

educated to be able to furnish accurate statistics, even if they were willing to do so. One man will give figures relating to one thing, another man to another, and it will be impossible to collate them.

In regard to the Registration of road traffic, this will have to be left in the hands of subordinate officials, and it will undoubtedly be used as a means of extortion. It is hardly necessary to go into details but one would imagine that a frontier post for the collection of traffic statistics would degenerate into a toll-gate maintained for the benefit of the recording officials.

I must apologise for the length of this letter, but it has been necessary to deal with the subject at some length to justify the conclusions I have come to, namely that we are already recording sufficient statistics for the practical purposes of Administration; that our efforts should be concentrated on trying to render these statistics more reliable year by year, and trying to ascertain the real meaning of the figures so obtained. Owing to the compact area of the Mysore State and the fact that it is served by a single railway administration we are already, I think, in a better position, statistically, than any other part of India, I entirely failed to see what useful results will be obtained by making attempts to collect inaccurate and imperfect data. So far as I can ~~see~~ judge very little use is made of the statistical information already published. A sub committee of Industries and Commerce Committee was appointed some months ago to examine the statistical information contained in bulletin No.14, but they have not hitherto met, and the principal reason for their not meeting is I believe they have no criteria derived from other parts of India by which to make comparisons or form a basis for criticism.

As to the possibility of obtaining statistics by compulsory means, I would point to the failure of the efforts to obtain correct vital statistics, and I would point out that the necessity of furnishing inquisitorial returns would be deeply resented by every one in this State. I must take this opportunity to express my opinion that as ^{the} Director of Industries and Commerce I am doing all that is practicable in this mat-

matter, and so far as I can see, all that is useful. If however the Mysore ~~xxx~~ Government wish for futher information and will specifically state what it is that is required I will endeavour to devise the means for obtaining such information.

Encl. 1

No. 390

OFFICE OF THE, ~~SECRETARY~~
 DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRIES AND COMMERCE,
 "RINGWOOD," HIGH GROUND,

Bangalore,.....29th August.....1913.

FILE No. 5

FROM

ALFRED CHATTERTON, Esq., C.I.E.,
Director of Industries and Commerce in Mysore,
Bangalore.

13-1514
6.92
67/13
52

To

The Secretary to the Government of His Highness the Maharajah of
 Mysore in the Department of Industries and Commerce, Bangalore

SIR,

I have the honour to forward herewith a copy of my No. 389.....
 dated the 29th August 1913 addressed to the Revenue Commissioner in
 Mysore regarding the collection of statistics, as it embodies my views
 on the extent to which work in this direction can be usefully done witho
 putting the State to an unjustifiable expenditure.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,



Director of Industries and Commerce.

V.S.N./-

From the Director of Industries and Commerce in Mysore
To the Revenue Commissioner in Mysore,
No....., dated the 29th August 1913.

Sir,

In reply to your No. 1839, dated the 11th inst., I have honour to ~~forwa~~ offer the following remarks regarding the coll of statistics in reference to the trade and commerce of the Mys State. This matter has engaged my attention for some time past in Bulletin No. 4 of the Industries and Commerce Committee of Economic Conference I have published a review of statistical information regarding the external trade of the Mysore State for the triennial period 1901-11. In the opening paragraph of that Review given a list of the sources from which such information has been collected, and the most ^{important} of these are (1) The Mysore Season and Crop Reports; (2) The Returns of rail borne traffic across the Mysore frontiers; (3) the reports of the Chief Inspector of Mines.

Since the publication of that Review, Government in their No. G. 6956-7/G.M.55-12-198, dated the 6th May '13, have sanctioned the payment of Rs. 175 a month to the Madras & Southern Mahratta Railway Co. for the compilation of statistics of rail borne traffic across the frontiers of the Mysore State. These returns will be submitted quarterly, and the first is expected before the end of September. The classification is arranged to be under 148 heads; and the Railway will furnish information regarding the weights of each commodity imported into, or exported from the State. In this Office, values will be assigned to each commodity for the quarter, and the monthly value of the trade determined. It may be expected that this information will be as accurate as trade statistics usually are, and that no further can be done in regard to the rail borne traffic.

In regard to the road traffic across the frontiers of the State, various proposals ~~proposals~~ have been submitted, and Government in their order No. R.5004-12/April.60-07-7, dated the 20th January 1913, finally declined to sanction an expenditure of Rs. 10,000 a year to maintain 40 stations on the frontiers for the registration of road traffic. I am not prepared to recommend the re-opening of this proposal, as I consider that the cost of obtaining road statist

means of settling the differences. What we want to take note of is any large import or export trade involving commercial transactions of such magnitude that they are not adjusted locally.

In regard to the internal trade of the State, it is, in my opinion, practically impossible to collect statistical information that will be of any value. No such statistics are collected in British India, and there is no practical inconvenience felt from the want of such statistics. Mysore is essentially an agricultural State, and the bulk of the produce raised is consumed within the State, and much of it in the village in which it is raised. Movements of produce between one place and another, when the transfer is effected by railways, can, if necessary, be determined from the half-yearly returns published by the railway company regarding the traffic between the various blocks into which the railway system of the State is subdivided. It will be possible to greatly elaborate the information now available, but I am sceptical of any advantage in doing so. It must be remembered that the commercial community in India never pay the least attention to Government statistics, as they are usually published so long after the period to which they refer that they are only of antiquarian interest.

For administrative purposes, accurate statistical information is of extreme value; but really accurate information ^{on} of a few points is of much greater value than a vast mass of inaccurate figures. I have too little knowledge of the revenue administration of the State to criticise the figures published in the Crop and Stock Reports which appear to me to be the most valuable statistical return prepared in the State. I have carefully studied these returns for the last 12 years, and it ~~seems~~ seems to me that they are sufficiently accurate for all practical purposes.

I have observed that every year estimates are furnished of the value of industrial work done in each district; and a tabulation of the figures so furnished from year to year shows that they are utterly and completely unreliable. In regard to certain industries, it is possible to obtain useful information regarding their prog-

progress, and I would refer to the section on Cotton in the Review of the External Trade already alluded to. on Page 10, Table VII, a statement is furnished shewing the quantities of yarn used by the hand weavers; and the fluctuations in the weight of yarn from year to year indicate the degree of activity of the hand loom weavers. Similarly, if any information ^{is required} regarding the metal workers, and metal working industries, it can be obtained from the data furnished in Table XII, page 15, which gives the exports and imports of the raw material for brass and copper industries.

For the present, I am of opinion that attention should be concentrated on the external trade of the State, and I propose each year, when the information becomes available, to review the same and to draw such deductions regarding the internal industrial activity as are possible. If further information than this is required regarding the material progress of the State, it can be obtained from the annual reports of such Departments as the Public Works Irrigation Branch, the Chief Inspector of Mines, and the Chief Electrical Engineer.

I have the honour to be,

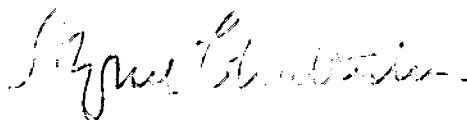
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(sd) Alfred Chatterton.

Director of Industries and Commerce.

Copy



Director of Industries and Commerce

V.S.R./-

OFFICE OF THE REVENUE COMMISSIONER
IN MYSORE,

Bangalore, September 1913

No. 1215
1.

FROM

1848
3
13-14
To E. M.
67 of 1
66. K. Doraswami Iyer Esquire.,

Revenue Commissioner in Mysore.

To

67 of 1 The Secretary to the Government of

66. His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore,

Department.

SIR,

*The sent
to
up.*
(Adverting to para 4 of Government order No. 6962
73/L.R. 250-12-3 dated 22nd May 1913, asking me to submit in
consultation with the Director of Industries and Commerce in
Mysore, a workable scheme for the correct registration of trade
statistics, I have the honor to submit herewith copy of letter
No. 389 dated 29th August 1913 from the Director of Industries
and Commerce in Mysore, offering his views on the subject. It
will be seen from his letter that Mr. Chatterton is doing some-
thing in regard to these statistics, and the result may be await-
-ed.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most obedient servant

[Signature]
Assistant Commissioner

For Revenue Commissioner

absent from the station.

R. C. 4.

From

K. Doraswami Iyer Esquire.,

Revenue Commissioner in Mysore.

To

*The Secretary to the Government of
H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore,
Department.*

Dated

Despatched

Received

General No.

Enclosure No. .

SUBJECT.

Forwards copy of letter from the
Director of Industries and Commerce in
Mysore offering his views on a work-
able scheme for the correct regis-
-tration of Trade Statistics.

Transferred to Branch V

PMR

12/9/13

Letter No. 389 dated 29th August 1913 from the Director of Industries and Commerce in Mysore to the revenue Commissioner in Mysore.

In reply to your No. 1839 of the 11th August 1913, I have the honour to offer the following remarks regarding the collection of statistics in reference to the trade and commerce of the Mysore State. This matter has engaged my attention for some time past, and in Bulletin No. 4 of the Industries and Commerce Committee of the Economic Conference I have published a review of statistical information regarding the "External Trade of the Mysore State during the decennial period 1901-11". In the opening paragraph of that review is given a list of the sources from which such information has been collected. The most important of these sources of information are (1) The Mysore Season and Crop Reports, (2) The Returns of Rail-borne Traffic across the Mysore frontiers, and (3) the Reports of the Chief Inspector of Mines.

Since the publication of that Review, Government, in their order No. G.6956-7/G.M. 55-12-198 dated the 6th May 1913, have sanctioned the payment of ₹175 a month to the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Company for the compilation of statistics of rail-borne traffic across the frontiers of the Mysore State. These returns will be submitted quarterly, and the first is expected before the end of September. The classification is arranged to be under 148 heads, and the Railway Company will furnish information regarding the weights of each commodity imported into, or exported from, the State. In this Office, values will be assigned to each commodity for the quarter, and the monthly value of the trade determined. It may be expected that this information will be as accurate as trade statistics usually are, and that nothing further can be done in regard to the rail-borne traffic.

In regard to the road traffic across the frontiers of the

the State, various proposals have been submitted and Government in their order No. R 5004-12/Agri 60-07-7 dated the 20th January 1909 finally declined to sanction an expenditure of about ₹ 10,000/- a year to maintain 40 stations on the frontiers for the registration of road traffic. I am not prepared to recommend the re-opening of this proposal as I consider that the cost of obtaining road statistics will be largely in excess of the value of the information. I have addressed the Collectors of all the Districts of the Madras Presidency bordering on Mysore, asking if they maintain any registration of the trans-frontier trade with this State. In the Madras Administration Manual, it is stated that such returns are made, but I have never heard of them. There is, no doubt, a considerable amount of road traffic to and fro on the frontiers, but it may be assumed with a fair degree of accuracy that the one balances the other, except in a few places where the trans-frontier trade is of more than local importance. For instance, all the silk of the Kollegal Taluk of the Madras Presidency passes across the frontier to Madur railway station. In the Kadur District, large quantities of coffee are sent down to the coast, and shipped from the port of Mangalore, and it is said that at Harihar, large quantities of cotton are imported from the neighbouring District of Dharwar to be ginned and baled at Davangere. There may be possibly other goods in which the trade is of more than local importance, and if so, special measures may be taken to deal with them. In the case of the silk coming into the Mysore State at Sivasamudram, it should not be difficult to obtain returns either at Madur railway station, or by the imposition of a nominal toll on silk parcels crossing the Cauvey Bridge at Sivasamudram. The coffee exported from Kadur is all shipped at Mangalore, and in my Review of the trade of Mysore already referred to, I have assumed that all the exports of coffee from the port of Mangalore are due to Mysore coffee. This, if not absolutely accurate, is approximately so, and it will be easy

easy to ascertain if coffee from any other source is exported from Mangalore.

In regard to the cotton crossing the Tungabhadra at Harihar similar means may be adopted to those recommended for the silk of Kollegal. Each bandy-load of unginned cotton might very well be made to pay a toll of an anna or two, which will cover the cost of registration.

It is a matter of little importance whether the local trans-frontier trade is registered or not. It may be assumed that the imports balance the exports, as for the local trade, there is no other means of settling the differences. What we want to take note of is any large import or export trade involving commercial transactions of such magnitude that they are not adjusted locally.

In regard to the internal trade of the State, it is, in my opinion practically impossible to collect statistical information that will be of any value. No such statistics are collected in British India, and there is no practical inconvenience felt from the want of such statistics. Mysore is an essentially an agricultural State, and the bulk of the produce raised is consumed in the State, and much of it in the village in which it is raised. Movements of produce between one place and another when the transfer is effected by railways, can, if necessary, be determined from the half-yearly returns published by the Railway Company regarding the traffic between the various blocks into which the railway system of the State is subdivided. It will be possible to greatly elaborate the information now available, but I am sceptical of any advantage in doing so. It must be remembered that the commercial community in India never pay the least attention to Government statistics, as they are usually published so long after the period to which they refer that they are only of antiquarian interest. For administrative purposes, accurate statistical information is of extreme

extreme value; but really accurate information on a few points is of much greater value than a vast mass of inaccurate figures. I have too little knowledge of the revenue administration of the State to criticise the figures published in the crop and Stock Reports which appear to me to be the most valuable statistical return prepared in the State. I have carefully studied these returns for the last 12 years, and it seems to me that they are sufficiently accurate for all practical purposes. I have observed that every year estimates are furnished of the value of the industrial work done in each District, and a tabulation of the figures so furnished from year to year shows that they are utterly and completely unreliable. In regard to certain industries, it is possible to obtain useful information regarding their progress, and I would refer to the section on Cotton in the Review of the External Trade already alluded to. On page 10, Table 7, a statement is furnished showing the quantities of yarn used by the hand weavers, and the fluctuations in the weight of yarn from year to year indicate the degree of activity of the hand loom weavers. Similarly, if any information is required regarding the metal workers, and metal working industries, it can be obtained from the data furnished in Table XII page 15 which gives the exports and imports of the raw material for brass and copper industries.

For the present I am of opinion that attention should be concentrated on the external trade of the State, and I propose each year, when the information becomes available, to review the same and to draw such deductions regarding the internal industrial activity as are possible. If further information than this is required, regarding the material progress of the State, it can be obtained from the annual reports of such Departments as the Public Works Irrigation Branch, the Chief Inspector of Mines, and the Chief Electrical Engineer.

" C o p y "

N. M. Rao
For Revenue Commissioner.